

From: Grunloh, Robert
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/23/02 6:47pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I believe the proposed DOJ settlement with Microsoft is essentially a sellout, and would urge the Court to toss it out and follow some of the recommendations of the 9 remaining States.

I've worked in the computer field for 10 years, starting as a supporter of Microsoft and gradually becoming disenchanted as I saw them stifle, control, buy, or kill numerous innovative products and technologies over the years. Working in this field under Microsoft's growing control of all software, indirectly much hardware, and soon all access points to the Internet (our present-day "commons") is increasingly oppressive. They are like a cancer, wanting control, growth and marketshare at all costs, yet producing only the minimal bland product in return. Publicly-funded agencies each year funnel millions of dollars to them because they have no good alternatives, and MS software is licensed at higher cost, and more restrictively, each year even as hardware gets cheaper and cheaper (there is competition in the hardware business, still).

Please enforce the law and give them a meaningful punishment. Look back to their skill at finding loopholes in the first consent agreement under Judge Sporkin, and then take a fresh look at the current proposal.

Thanks.

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speaking for myself, not my employer
